

TO: USEPA

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5

DATE: 12-15-83

FROM: Rick Petersoh



498902

☒ Information only

SUBJECT: 09908009 - La Salle County - U. S. Scrap

☐ Response requested

IKBRRR ILD980902209

The U. S. Scrap site located in Ottawa, Illinois, is former strip mine land consisting of about 39 acres. From 1972-1976, this area contained up to 20,000 55-gallon drums of primarily hazardous waste. The site was to be developed for disposal. The contents of the drums were to be poured on to the previously mined areas and allowed to evaporate. The site never received an operating permit and the drums were eventually removed from the property. It is not clear from the file if any material from the drums was dumped on site.

Although the site was cleaned up, Illinois records indicate instances of spillage and leaking drums when the site was active. Also, during clean-up, no records or account of procedures were recorded and no follow-up sampling was done to help determine the completeness of the operation.

I feel the site should receive a high priority for inspection. On November 16, 1983, the Agency received a letter from the La Salle County Environmental Counsel indicating this former drum storage area was to be developed for residential useage. The letter expressed concern regarding problems that may occur as a result of the former hazardous waste activity. Before the above mentioned development precedes, it should be determined if the area is clean. Samples taken from the soil, from the strip ponds, and from the bottom of the ponds could help determine the suitability of this site for residential development.

Additional information can be obtained from the site file: 09908009 - La Salle County - Ottawa/U. S. Scrap.

cc: division file  
northern region